

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the communication, Applicant elects to prosecute Group II, Claims 6, 8, and 46-49.

This election is made with traverse with respect to the restriction between Groups II and III. The traversal is set forth below.

Claim 50 depends from claim 46 which in turn depends from claim 8. Claim 50, like claims 46-49, are directed to a preferred embodiment of the invention in which the carrier for topical application to skin is a patch and is narrower than claims 8 and 46. Accordingly, a search of the Group II claims 8 and 46 will necessarily also include a search of Group III claims 50-51.

The Examiner argues that Group III encompasses incorporation of additional material to the platelets and that it is uncertain what are "the platelets". In response, "the platelets" of claim 50 correspond to "the platelets" of claim 8 from which claim 50 depends. Also note that the language of claim 8 is open-ended ("comprising") and so that the composition, which includes at least a skin permeation enhancer in addition to the platelets, may include other components as well. Accordingly, both the compositions referred to in the method claims of Group II and the method claims of Group III may contain components other than platelets.

Furthermore, the carrier of claim 8, when a transdermal patch according to claim 46, may include a matrix, support film, and permeable membrane as per claim 50. Accordingly, search and examination of Group II would encompass also a search and examination of Group III. Applicant respectfully requests that Group III be rejoined with Group II.

This election is made without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the remaining claims in a divisional application.

Conclusion

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number appearing below. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

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Respectfully submitted,

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